

I claim:

1. A method of in-waiting room health-care information services, comprising the steps of:

providing a physician's office with a patient waiting room;

providing the waiting room with an in-waiting room video display unit;

providing a remote database with health-care information video programming encompassing at least matters of the diagnosis of disease or disorder or, as well, matters of medications, procedures or other treatments;

continually playing a sub-set of the programming over the in-waiting room video display unit to afford interested waiting-room parties the opportunity to view the programming; and

providing such interested waiting-room parties with Internet access to the remote database for deeper online research therein whereby the in-waiting room showcasing of the health-care information video programming attracts such interested waiting-room parties into deeper research therein in order that patients thereby learn more clearly how to be involved in and more completely comply with their prescribed regimen of treatment.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the video programming comprises full audio-visual formats or sequenced still pictures in the style of a narrated slide show.

3. The method of claim 1 further comprising providing an intermediate database for the sub-set of programming.

4. The method of claim 3 wherein the intermediate database comprises any of a DVD device or a local hard drive of a computer attached to the in-waiting room video display unit or a LAN device or an Intranet server.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein the in-waiting room video display unit is linked to the remote database by the Internet for transmission of video programming and control data.

6. The method of claim 1 further comprising providing the physician's offices at least one back office provided with at least one back office video display unit for playing selections of the health-care video programming chosen by a physician or staff for the viewing of a patient party for instruction or education purposes.

7. The method of claim 1 further comprising a physician or staff of the office providing a patient part with a virtual prescription to review given selections of the remote database's health-care information video programming independently from the physician's office for instruction or education purposes, whereby the virtual prescription gains impact by being provided by the same source providing the in-waiting room programming available in the milieu of the physician's waiting room, and the later online play of the virtual prescription programming allows reflection and reinforces instructions gotten in the office.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein the sub-set of programming playing over the in-waiting room video display unit is correlated with an index code, wherein interested in-waiting room parties are provided with well-published access to then-current given index code such that such interested in-waiting room parties can at another time and place request service over the Internet from the remote database for substantially the same programming seen in the milieu of the waiting room by reference to the given index code.

9. A method of in-waiting room health-care information services, comprising the steps of:

providing a diversity of distributed physician offices, each having at least one patient waiting room;

providing the diverse waiting rooms with at least one in-waiting room video display unit;

providing a remote database of health-care information video programming encompassing at least matters of the diagnosis of disease or disorder or, as well, matters of medications, procedures or other treatments;

continually playing diverse sub-sets of the programming over the in-waiting room video display units in the diverse waiting rooms to afford interested waiting-room parties the opportunity to view the programming; and

providing such interested waiting-room parties with Internet access to the remote database for deeper online research therein whereby the in-waiting room showcasing of the health-care information video programming attracts such interested waiting-room parties into deeper research in the remote database in order that patients thereby learn more clearly how to be involved in and more completely comply with their prescribed regimen of treatment.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein the video programming comprises full audio-visual formats or sequenced still pictures in the style of a narrated slide show.

11. The method of claim 9 further comprising providing a plurality of distributed intermediate databases for serving one or more of the in-waiting room video display units with health-care information video programming.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein the intermediate database comprises any of a DVD device or a local hard drive of a computer attached to the in-waiting room video display unit or a LAN device or an Intranet server.

13. The method of claim 9 wherein the in-waiting room video display units are linked to the remote database by the Internet for transmission of video programming and control data.

14. The method of claim 9 further comprising providing at least some of the physician's offices with at least one back office provided with at least one back office video display unit for playing selections of the health-care video programming chosen by a physician or staff for the viewing of a patient party for instruction or education purposes.

15. The method of claim 9 further comprising a physician or staff of the office providing a patient part with a virtual prescription to review given selections of the remote database's health-care information video programming independently from the physician's office for instruction or education purposes, whereby the virtual prescription gains impact by being provided by the same source providing the in-waiting room programming available in the milieu of the physician's waiting room, and the later online

play of the virtual prescription programming allows reflection and reinforces instructions gotten in the office.

16. The method of claim 9 wherein each of the diverse sub-sets of programming playing over the in-waiting room video display units in the diverse waiting rooms is correlated with an index code, wherein interested in-waiting room parties are provided with well-published access to a then-current given index code such that such interested in-waiting room parties can at another time and place request service over the Internet from the remote database for substantially the same programming seen in the milieu of the waiting room by reference to the given index code.

17. A method of in-waiting room health-care information services, comprising the steps of:

providing a diversity of distributed physician offices, each having at least one patient waiting room;

providing the diverse waiting rooms with at least one in-waiting room video display unit;

providing a remote database of health-care information video programming encompassing at least matters of the diagnosis of disease or disorder or, as well, matters of medications, procedures or other treatments;

continually playing diverse sub-sets of the programming over the in-waiting room video display units in the diverse waiting rooms to afford interested waiting-room parties the opportunity to view the programming and publishing a given mnemonic in connection with a given piece of programming; and

providing such interested waiting-room parties with Internet access to the remote database so that at another time and place such interested waiting-room parties can request service over the Internet from the remote database for replay of programming

corresponding to the given piece of programming seen in the milieu of the waiting room by reference to the given mnemonic.

18. The method of claim 17 wherein the given mnemonic is published by any of graphic printing or stated during the script.

19. The method of claim 17 further comprising providing at least some of the physician's offices with at least one back office provided with at least one back office video display unit for playing selections of the health-care video programming chosen by a physician or staff for the viewing of a patient party for instruction or education purposes.

20. The method of claim 19 further comprising a physician or staff of the office providing a patient part with a virtual prescription to review given selections of the remote database's health-care information video programming independently from the physician's office for instruction or education purposes, whereby the virtual prescription gains impact by being provided by the same source providing the in-waiting room or back office programming available in the milieu of the physician's office, and the later online review of the virtual prescription programming allows reflection and reinforces instructions gotten in the office.